

April 8, 1974

PRESIDENT: This is the Senators Stahmer, Whitney and Nore amendment to LB302 on Select File. Have you all voted. Clerk will record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, no nays.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted. Are there other amendments to the bill.

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Then what is your pleasure gentlemen. Senator Whitney.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, I move the bill be advanced to E & R Engrossing, and I'll just make it very brief that this is a comprehensive mental health program throughout the state. At a price that each and every person can afford. The intent is to give services, mental health services to twice as many people as presently are served at about half the cost per person. The control is in an elected board, and these regional areas. There have been pilot projects in Nebraska to see if such programs would work. And they definitely will work. And I want to point out, that we now have in the state of Nebraska about 8,000 persons that are receiving out-patient care from our present regional centers, etc. And there are 48,000 out-patient visits this past year, and they are doing a good job with what they have to work with, but this will make it possible for them to do a better job because you will have community input. The local people will make an input here that will help this whole program, and it's best to have them in their local communities on the job. And as a consequence these people will continue to be better tax payers than they have been in the past. Now we want progress. We're getting progress. And this will create more progress. And the thing we want to do here. The thing that we have tried to do is to have a comprehensive mental health program throughout the state of Nebraska close to the homes of people. Still...there are still people who are going to drive 110 miles to get services. But that's far better than driving a considerably greater distance. This bill is very badly needed. We need it. The local community people are waiting for it. And I ask that you move this bill to E & R Engrossment.

PRESIDENT: All those in favor of advancing LB302 from Select File to E & R for Engrossing. Please say aye. Those opposed say no. Ayes have it. So Ordered. The bill is advanced.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB782 was on Final Reading, is correctly Engrossed, the bill was returned to Select File for Specific amendment. The specific amendment was to strike enacting clause. That motion failed. The bill was then moved to be advanced again to Final Reading, which motion failed. So the bill sets on Select File. We now have a motion to advance 782 to Final Reading, Signed Senator Fellman.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Fellman...

SENATOR FELLMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. This bill the other day has as Vince Brown just stated rocked back and forth and I would...I've put a motion to move it forward now because I think the bill is very important and should be